

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 IOE-00 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06

RSC-01 OES-02 H-01 L-02 OIC-02 AEC-05 AECE-00 SP-02

AID-05 EB-04 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01

OMB-01 CEA-01 AGR-05 COME-00 SWF-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8027

AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 2265

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 15568

CAIRO FOR SECRETARY BUTZ

FROM AMBASSADOR MARTIN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, WFC

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE - NEW FOLLOW UP PROPOSAL BY MAREI

1. MAREI CALLED ME IN THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS FOLLOWUP. GAVE ME DRAFT PREPARED BY HIS STAFF WHICH HE SAID HE THOUGHT WOULD BE INTRODUCED BY AFRICANS-ASIANS OR PERHAPS 77. DESCRIBED IT AS "STOP FAO" EFFORT. STATED BOERMA AND STAFF LOBBYING AGGRESSIVELY FOR FAO AS SOLE FOLLOWUP AGENCY INCLUDING FUND IF CREATED WITH ONLY OUTSIDE LINK NEW REPORTING LINE TO ECOSOC WHICH MAREI SAW AS WORSE THAN NOTHING. HE AND HANNAH FELT FAO NOT MAKING MUCH PROGRESS, WITH AFRICANS ESPECIALLY OPPOSED. THOUGHT US AND GROUP B ATTITUDES CRITICAL TO OUTCOME AND WANTED US VIEWS BEFORE GIVING GO-AHEAD.

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2. WHILE PAPER COVERS CONSULTATIVE GROUP ON INVESTMENT

SATISFACTORILY, GIVES FOOD AID COORDINATION UNDESIRABLY TO WFP-FAO AND PROPOSES RATHER TOO BROAD AUTHORITY TO AN FAO FOOD SECURITY COMMITTEE. MAREI SAYS HIS ONLY REAL INTEREST IS IN WORLD FOOD COUNCIL AS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS OF WFC. ALL OTHER POINTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FEELS ADEQUATE IMPLEMENTATION OF OTHER FOLLOW-UP PROPOSALS AND THEIR INTEGRATED FUNCTIONING WHOLLY DEPENDENT ON EFFECTIVE COUNCIL.

3. HIS PRESENT PROPOSAL IS VAIRANT OF THAT MADE BY HIM AND THEN DISOWNED AT END PREPCOM 3. HE STIPULATES A MINISTERIAL LEVEL GROUP REPRESENTING MAJOR GRAIN EXPORTERS, DEVELOPED IMPORTERS, DEVELOPING IMPORTERS, OPEC COUNTRIES, USSR AND CHINA, WITH PERMANENT PRESIDENT APPOINTED BY SECRETARY GENERAL OF UN AND STAFFED JOINTLY BY UN AND FAO SECRETARIATS. HOWEVER, AFRICANS HAVE OBJECTED TO APPOINTMENT BY UN SECRETARY GENERAL ON BOTH POLITICAL AND LEGAL GROUNDS. THEREFORE HE PROPOSES WHAT AMOUNTS I FEAR TO A HAT-TRICK OF ELECTION BY GA OF JUST RIGHT LIST OF COUNTRIES AS LISTED IN HIS DRAFT, THOUGH HE IS PERSONALLY QUITE READY TO GO BACK TO SECGEN DESIGNATION IF THIS COULD BE AGREED.

4. I INDICATED US SUPPORT FOR OVERALL COORDINATING MECHANISM OF SOME SORT AS EXPRESSED IN SECY KISSINGER'S SPEECH AND CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY FOR HIS EARLIER PROPOSAL. IT WAS AGREED WE WOULD STUDY DRAFT AND COMMENT LATER MORE FULLY.

5. MAREI ALSO DISCUSSED FUND PROSPECTS. SAID ARABS VERY POORLY REPRESENTED AND BRIEFED AT WFC AND HE HAS HAD DIFFICULTY CONTACTING LEADERS IN CAPITALS TO GET BETTER IDEA OF REAL POSITIONS. HE STILL HOPES CAN GET MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO FUND AND DOES NOT WISH TO CLOSE DOOR ON THIS BUT AGREES IF ONLY FEW HUNDERED MILLION MADE AVAILABLE NO NEW FUND WOULD BE JUSTIFIED.

6. DELEGATION WILL PRESENT FURTHER VIEW ON WORLD FOODCOUNCIL PROPOSAL MONDA AND WOULD WELCOME PROMPT WASH REACTION IN TERMS OF ACTION NEXT WEEK IF 77 SHOULD BY CHANCE PROPOSE IT.
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